

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 07442 311354Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W
----- 019387

R 311240Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2782
USDA/FAS WASHDC

UNCLAS TEHRAN 7442

TO: PEORSTAL FAS/W FROM ACTING AGATTACHE

TOFAS 151

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR IR
SUBJ: PORT FIRE, KHORRAMSHAHR

VERY SERIOUS BLAZE JULY 29-30 DESTROYED 4 LARGEST OUT OF TOTAL 20 WAREHOUSES IN KHORRAMSHAHR, AND DAMAGED OTHERS. KHORRAMSHAHR IS THE PORT THAT HANDLES 45 PERCENT OF IRAN'S TOTAL IMPORTS. BULK AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES BOUGHT BY GOVERNMENT, NOT AFFECTED, SINCE GOVERNMENT USES OTHER FACILITIES. BUT TRADE IN COMMODITIES HANDLED PRIVATELY WILL NOW SUFFER EVEN FURTHER DELAY ON ACCOUNT OF IMPAIRMENT OF PORT FACILITIES.

UNLOADING JETTIES NOT AFFECTED. DISCHARGE CONTINUES INTO AVAILABLE STORAGE SPACE. BUT STORAGE AREA WHERE GOODS AWAITED CUSTOMS CLEARANCE IS NOW REDUCED BY 25 TO 30 PERCENT, AND POSSIBLY MORE. CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FROM REMAINING STORAGE AREA TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED. CONSUL ESTIMATES SUSPENSION MAY EXTEND FOR A WEEK OR TWO. THIS WILL EXTEND LIST OF VESSELS AWAITING ACCESS TO JETTIES OR ANCHORAGE FROM WHICH LIGHTERING CAN BE DONE. JULY 30 COUNT OF WAITING VESSELS IS 132. AT LEAST 60 DAYS WAS NORMAL PRE-FIRE WAITING TIME.

LOCAL NEWSPAPER PRINTED WILDLY DIFFERENT ESTIMATES OF FINANCIAL DAMAGE; \$15 MILLION IN PAPER A (USUALLY MOST CONSERVATIVE), \$150 MILLION IN PAPER B. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED LATER.
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HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PORT FACILITIES, FIRES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORT FIRE, KHORRAMSHAHR VERY SERIOUS BLAZE JULY 29-30 DESTROYED 4 LARGEST OUT OF TOTAL 20
TAGS: EAGR, IR
To: STATE AGR
Type: TE
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